



Department  
for Education

Regional Schools Commissioner's  
Office  
Lisa Mannall  
2 Rivergate  
Bristol  
BS1 6EH

The Members and Directors/Trustees of  
The Plymouth School of Creative Arts  
22 Millbay Road  
Plymouth PL1 3EG

14 March 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

**Termination Warning Notice to the to the Members and Trustees of the  
Plymouth School of Creative Arts Trust**

In accordance with section 2A of the Academies Act 2010<sup>i</sup> any funding agreement of an academy may be terminated by the Secretary of State where special measures are required to be taken by the academy or the academy requires significant improvement and the Chief Inspector of Ofsted has given notice of that under section 13(3)(a) of the Education Act 2005.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 4 March 2019 confirming that the Plymouth School of Creative Arts was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures. Of serious concern were Ofsted's conclusions that:

- Too many students across primary and secondary are making insufficient progress; staff expectations are not high enough.
- Leaders do not evaluate the effectiveness of pupil premium and catch-up funding.
- Absence overall, and for different groups of pupils, is too high and not showing signs of improvement. Persistent absence is also too high.
- Across the school there is too much low-level disruption. Teaching is not engaging and the environment is not conducive of learning.
- Leadership over time has not improved teaching quality to allow students to realise their potential.
- Teaching and assessment do not meet the needs of different groups of pupils.
- Governors have not held leaders to account for pupils' outcomes in key subjects such as English and mathematics.
- Exclusions are above average and not declining quickly enough.

- The curriculum does not enable pupils to acquire knowledge and skills across a broad range of subjects. Most pupils do not receive adequate careers advice.

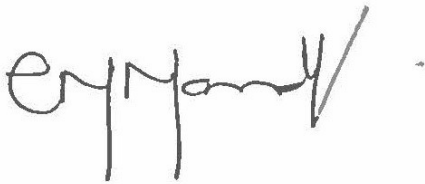
On the basis of the evidence provided by Ofsted, I am now issuing this Termination Warning Notice because I have concerns that both the academy's governance and management, and educational standards, are unlikely to improve rapidly and sustainably without further intervention.

In making the decision on whether to terminate the funding agreement I will consider any written representations you wish to make. Additionally, I would ask that you continue to work with Reach South to drive necessary school improvement and that you work with my office to facilitate the academy's transfer to a strong multi academy trust.

Please provide me with any representations you have and your Post-Ofsted Action Plan within fifteen working days from the date of this letter, 4 April 2019, copied to [REDACTED]

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and the Local Authority. This letter will also be published on gov.uk. We aim to do this within 15 working days of the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely,



**Lisa Mannall**  
**Regional Schools Commissioner for the South West**

**CC:** Dominic Herrington, National Schools Commissioner  
[REDACTED]

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<sup>i</sup> Inserted by section 14 of the Education and Adoption Act 2016